

**Introduced by Senators Machado, Alarcon, Bowen, Costa, and
Scott**

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Alquist, Aroner, Chu, Diaz, Havice,
Lowenthal, Robert Pacheco, Pavley, Steinberg, Strickland, and
Strom-Martin)

June 11, 2001

Senate Joint Resolution No. 16—Relative to the United States
Community Oriented Policing program.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SJR 16, as introduced, Machado. Community oriented policing
program.

This measure would memorialize the President and the Congress to
continue providing funding for the Community Oriented Policing
Services program that has established a partnership with local and
national law enforcement to assist communities in their war against
crime.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, In the 1960s and 1970s, the United States crime
2 rate was skyrocketing and the quality of life in American
3 communities was rapidly deteriorating; and

4 WHEREAS, Development in technology had caused police to
5 slowly move away from the traditional way of personally
6 patrolling their communities. Police cruisers and radios took
7 police off sidewalks and put them in cars, racing from incident to
8 incident; and

1 WHEREAS, A handful of forward thinking law enforcement
2 officials began to form partnerships with neighborhoods in an
3 attempt to eliminate the root causes of crime; and

4 WHEREAS, By adopting the community-oriented philosophy,
5 numerous communities began to combat crime in their
6 neighborhoods; and

7 WHEREAS, On September 13, 1994, former President Clinton
8 signed the Violent Crime Control Act, which was one of the most
9 comprehensive pieces of federal crime legislation in history; and

10 WHEREAS, The success of community policing programs
11 prompted President Clinton to propose the Community Oriented
12 Policing Services (COPS) program; and

13 WHEREAS, On May 12, 1999, President Clinton announced
14 the opening of the national COPS office, that provided funds
15 totaling more than \$200 million in grants for 396 communities
16 nationwide, and hired 2,700 community policing officers; and

17 WHEREAS, COPS has also funded critical technology, vital
18 training, and innovative problem solving strategies to advance
19 community policing nationwide; and

20 WHEREAS, The COPS program quickly gained support of
21 major law enforcement groups, as well as the United States
22 Conference of Mayors and the National League of Cities; and

23 WHEREAS, COPS has provided an unprecedented level of
24 support to well over half of the law enforcement agencies in the
25 United States; and

26 WHEREAS, The COPS office was scheduled to cease awarding
27 grants at the end of the year 2000 while the Clinton Administration
28 proposed the 21st Century Policing Initiative that continues the
29 COPS program until the year 2005; and

30 WHEREAS, America's police chiefs, sheriffs, and mayors
31 strongly support this proposal; and

32 WHEREAS, Continuing the COPS program into the 21st
33 century would translate into more than 30,000 to 50,000 additional
34 community policing officers being able to protect America's
35 neighborhoods; and

36 WHEREAS, American communities are safer thanks to the
37 COPS program, which has provided a flexible source of funding
38 for innovative crime fighting approaches at the local level; and

39 WHEREAS, The safety and well being of our citizens must
40 continue to be a priority, now, therefore, be it



1 *Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of California,*
2 *jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California respectfully
3 memorializes that the President and the Congress of the United
4 States continue to provide funding for the COPS program, which
5 has been a groundbreaking partnership with local and national law
6 enforcement and has assisted communities to turn the tide in the
7 war against crime; and be it further

8 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
9 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
10 States, to the Speaker of the United States House of
11 Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the United States
12 Senate, to the Chair of the House Committee on Appropriations,
13 to each Senator and Representative from California in the
14 Congress of the United States.

